

EGYPT – CRITICAL LANGUAGE ENHANCEMENT AWARD
2012-2013 - Informational Handout

Overview

The Critical Language Enhancement Award (CLEA) provides an opportunity for Fulbright U.S. Student Program grantees to receive 3-6 months of intensive language study in addition to their Fulbright grants. The purpose of the Critical Language Enhancement Award is to cultivate higher levels of language proficiency prior to and during the Fulbright grant period and beyond. Ultimately, Critical Language Enhancement Award grantees will achieve a high level of proficiency in a targeted language and will go on to careers or further study which will incorporate the use of the language studied and/or related languages.

Acceptable Languages

Arabic – Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) and/or dialect

Prior Language Study

A minimum of one year of prior Arabic study is required.

Dates and Timing

Grant duration is a minimum of 3 months and a maximum of 6 months. Neither a CLEA nor a Fulbright grant period can begin prior to mandatory attendance at the pre-departure orientation convened in the Washington, DC metro-area on June 26-28, 2012. If the Fulbright application proposes research or study, the CLEA grant period must precede the Fulbright grant period. If the application proposes Arabic language study, the CLEA grant period must follow the Fulbright grant period. Concurrent CLEA and Fulbright grant periods are not permitted. CLEA and Fulbright grants must be taken consecutively.

Language Instruction

A CLEA award obliges the grantee to participate in intensive language study throughout the CLEA grant period, engaging in a minimum of 20 hours per week of formal classroom instruction or a minimum of 10 hours per week of private tutoring. Study under a tutor must be fully described to the Fulbright Commission in Egypt, using a form available from the Binational Fulbright Commission in Egypt (BFCE). BFCE reserves the right to approve the tutor.

Most CLEA grantees have enrolled in language classes provided by one of the following institutions:

- Al-Diwan Center, Cairo (www.arabiccairo.com or www.aldiwancenter.com)
- Alexandria Center for Languages, Alexandria (www.acl-egypt.com).
- Arabeya Association, Cairo (www.arabeya.org/)
- Arabi Center For Arabic Studies, Alexandria (www.arabi-center.com)
- Arabic Center for Science and Literature, Cairo (www.arabiccenter.com.eg)
- Arabic Language Institute, Cairo (www.aucegypt.edu/academics/ali/Pages/default.aspx)
- British Council, Cairo (www.britishcouncil.org/egypt.htm)
- Center for Arabic Study Abroad, Cairo www.utexas.edu/cola/centers/casa/ or www.aucegypt.edu/academics/ali/Pages/CASA.aspx)
- Episcopal Training Centre, Cairo (www.etcegypt.org)
- Fajr Center, Cairo (www.fajr.com)
- Hedayet Center, Cairo (www.hedayetinstitute.com)

- International Language Institute, Cairo (www.arabicegypt.com)
- Kalimat Language School, Cairo (www.kalimategypt.com)
- Logia Center, Alexandria (www.logia-egy.com)

With prior permission from the Commission, a CLEA grantee may enroll in an institution not listed above.

Individuals whose Fulbright projects propose graduate study may find it difficult to complete a minimum CLEA grant period before their studies begin.

Changing Plans of Study

Instructional changes during the language award are discouraged. Any changes must be approved by the Commission.

Additional Grant Requirements

To monitor and evaluate grantee and program achievements, language proficiency tests and grantee reporting are required. **Failure to complete these stipulations could result in delayed grant payments.** The CLEA Program Manager at the Institute of International Education (IIE) will send reminders when evaluations and reports are due.

Pre- and Post-Grant Language Proficiency Evaluations

To track grantee language ability, grantees are **required** to take pre- and post- grant language evaluations or tests. Language evaluations should take place at least two weeks prior to starting the grant and within two weeks after completion. Testing costs will be assumed by the program, except in the case of charges incurred for missed evaluation appointments. Charges incurred from missed evaluation appointments are the responsibility of the grant recipient.

Testing is conducted by a third-party organization, ALTA Language Testing. **Grantees are responsible for contacting ALTA to arrange evaluations.** Results are sent to the CLEA Program Manager at IIE. Results are available upon request.

Mid-Term Reports

A grantee with a grant longer than four months in duration must submit a mid-term report. The mid-term report is a one-page Word document detailing language learning experiences to date and any problems, successes, challenges, as well as any other information a grantee would like us to know. Grantees will be reminded about the mid-term report close to the time it is due (approximately half-way through the grant). It should be emailed to the CLEA Program Manager at IIE, Pamela Jennings at: PJennings@iie.org

Final Reports

All grantees are required to submit a Final Report detailing their experience, language growth, and feedback on program administration and general policies. An electronic report format will be made available to grantees as they near the end of their language grant.

For questions or concerns regarding the mid-term report, final report or language testing, contact:

Pamela Jennings

US Student Programs
Institute of International Education
212.984.5366

pjennings@iie.org

809 United Nations Plaza, NY, NY, 10017

Holidays, Recesses, and Break Periods

CLEA grantees are expected to fulfill the minimum number of instructional hours per week. Insofar as possible, any vacation period should correspond with a local holiday period or recess at language institutions. The following leave policy applies:

For grant durations of 3-4 months: The grantee may take a maximum of one week (7 days) of vacation without deduction in grant benefits if such absence is approved by the Fulbright Commission.

For grant durations of 4-6 months: The grantee may take a maximum of 10 days of vacation without deduction in grant benefits if such absence is approved by the Fulbright Commission.

International travel is permitted during these breaks. However, language award recipients are responsible for their own travel expenses during study breaks. Grantees may not leave the host country without prior approval of the Commission. **Grantees are not covered under the U.S. Department of State Accident and Sickness Program for Exchanges (ASPE) when traveling outside of the host country.**

Funding

The Critical Language Enhancement Award includes:

- monthly maintenance stipend
- tuition fees
- book allowance
- health benefit policy

The Critical Language Enhancement Award does **not** provide additional funding or reimbursement for school application/registration fees, bank transfer/wire fees, transportation, or excess baggage charges.

Monthly Maintenance Stipend

CLEA recipients receive the same monthly maintenance stipends as Fulbright Full Grantees. The policy on dependents follows that of the Fulbright U.S. Student Program.

Tuition Fees Maximum tuition benefits are \$3,900 (for three months) to \$7,800 (for six months).

Tuition fees are reimbursable against original receipts. Receipts must indicate name of institution/tutor, instruction start/end dates, and total hours of instruction. If grantees are studying under a tutor, receipts must be accompanied by a full description of instruction, using a tutoring form available from the Fulbright Commission.

Expenses reimbursable under the CLEA grant must be incurred during the CLEA grant period.

Book Allowance

All grantees receive a book allowance to use for the purchase of books and other educational materials relevant to their language study. The allowance accompanies the first CLEA stipend payment.

Travel

All air travel must comply with the “Fly America” and “Open Skies” provisions. Costs for round-trip airfare to the host country are provided through the Fulbright award. The Critical Language Enhancement Award does not provide for costs of passports, visas, immunizations or other costs incidental to travel abroad. The grant does not cover excess baggage fees.

Health and Accident Coverage

Health and accident coverage for the Critical Language Enhancement Award is the same as for the Fulbright Full Grant. At the start of the Critical Language Enhancement Award, grantees will be registered for the U.S. Department of State Accident and Sickness Program for Exchanges (ASPE) with Seven Corners, Inc. The Commission is responsible for registering the grantee for insurance. Health benefits cards are issued upon grantee arrival by the Fulbright Commission. All grantees are covered from the day of departure for their Critical Language Enhancement Award to the last day of their Fulbright full grant. Grantees should be aware that any travel outside of the host country is not covered under ASPE. For more information on this policy, please visit:

http://us.fulbrightonline.org/resources_current_insurance.html.

More Information

The most up-to-date information about the Critical Language Enhancement Award can be found at online at: https://us.fulbrightonline.org/thinking_clea.html

Critical Language Enhancement Award Manager: Eman Shaker, Binational Fulbright Commission in Egypt, eshaker@bfce.eun.eg